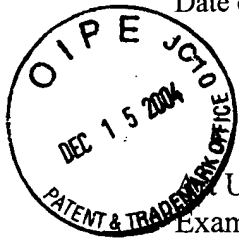


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Attorney Docket No. 23239-301C



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES**

Unit: 1635
Examiner: Janet L. Epps-Ford
Appellants: Ellington et al.
Serial No.: 09/883,119
Filed: June 14, 2001
For: Regulatable, Catalytically Active Nucleic Acids

Boston, MA 02111
December 15, 2004

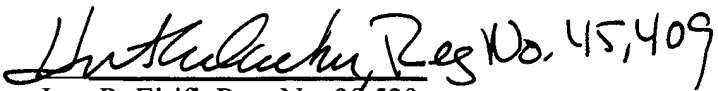
Mail Stop Appeal Brief--Patents
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REQUEST FOR ORAL HEARING

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.194, applicants request an oral hearing before the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences to present arguments in support of their Appeal Brief, filed concurrently herewith. Applicants have enclosed a check in the amount of \$500.00 in payment of the fee required by 37 C.F.R. §1.17(d). The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees that may be due, or credit any overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. 50-0311, Reference No. 23239-301C.

Respectfully submitted,

for:  Reg No. 45,409
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